



# SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

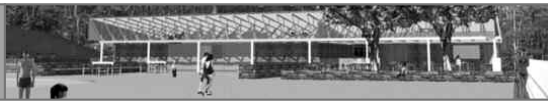


Volume 58 • No. 11

June | 2012

Date of Publication: May 17, 2012

“Our First Full  
Season Celebration”

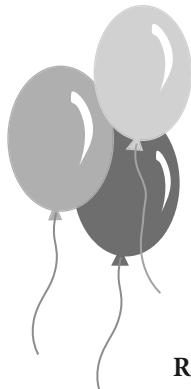


## Town Pool House Celebration

By Rich Charnovich, Town Manager

Please mark **Saturday, June 9, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.** on your calendar! The Mayor and Town Council will be hosting a **celebration** at the **newly renovated Pool House** to celebrate its first full season. **Picnic foods** such as **hamburgers** and **hot dogs** on the grill and other goodies will be served. There will also be a brief program at **2:00 p.m.** Because we would like to get an **approximate** count for food planning, please

**RSVP** either via email or phone to [town@townofsomerset.com](mailto:town@townofsomerset.com), or 301-657-3211. When you **RSVP**, **please provide your home address and number of Town resident attendees**. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Barred Owl

By Nancy Soreng, Uppingham Street



Our Vocal Neighbor, A Barred Owl.

Nearly every time my husband and I **play tennis**, we hear an **owl hooting**.

A couple of weeks ago, before the trees were fully leafed out, he was able to take a photo. We thought residents might like to see a **picture** of one of our more vocal neighbors.



Town Council Meeting.

## Meeting Agenda To Become More Resident Friendly

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

In light of the discussion during the Council's last work session about the **“unfriendliness”** of the meetings, I have listened, done some pondering and come up with an idea.

So, instead of having comments from residents on **Agenda** and then **non-Agenda** items at different times, starting in **June** we will have a **“Public Comment”** period for up to **20 minutes** right after I call the meeting to order. In this way, every month, at the same time, residents will know when they can come and talk to the Council about anything they like. **What could be friendlier than that?**

As many of you know, I was **board president** of a condominium association in **Friendship Heights** for **11 years**, and this is how we handled public input. It was very successful.

*continued on page 4*

## Calendar

### Monday, June 4

Town Council Meeting

### Saturday, June 9

Town Pool House Celebration

### Monday, June 18

MVA Mobile Office

Don't forget to check the Town website throughout the month for an up-to-date calendar. Go to [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com) and click on **Town Calendar**.

The Preliminary Agenda for each month's Town Council meeting is posted on the Town website ([www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)) seven days prior to the meeting. A copy is also posted on the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch.



## On My Mind

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

### Peace and Quiet

From time to time I feel compelled to remind people about the **basic courtesies** of **suburban life**. This is not because I get a kick out of being *schoolmarmish* or *parental*, but sometimes a few words and the power of suggestion are more effective than **strict law enforcement**. I see the Mayor's role in this regard as one of the benefits of small town living.

This month the Council passed a **new ordinance** regarding noise, with the goal of keeping *early mornings* and *all day Sunday* as quiet time. We want to make sure that **construction, leaf blower and mower use, and roof work**, for example, are restricted to *certain hours* during the week. **Noise complaints** are pretty common at Town Hall.

However, there were some residents that wished the Council to take the further step of also keeping **Saturdays quiet**, and this is where the Council drew the line—for many obvious reasons. My response to these folks was to say that I would start a campaign for *voluntary* compliance.

What I am asking is for everyone to be mindful of their neighbors on **Saturdays**, and to consider, whenever possible, scheduling *noisy activities* during the work week. The Council and I realize that this is not always possible, but we urge you to think about **neighbors** when making such decisions. We will all be grateful.

In the same vein, if your household is planning a **yard** or **estate sale**, please have the courtesy to let those around you know in advance. And on the day of the sale, please put up **temporary signs** reminding people to adhere to our **parking ordinances** and also to keep the **noise level** down. Recently, there was a *three-day* estate sale in the heart of Somerset. Parking was a *mess*; there were traffic issues and added noise. I hope this **won't happen** in the future and I would rather not ask the Council to pass a relevant ordinance.

*I want to thank everyone for thinking about these issues and taking appropriate action.*



## In This Issue

Barred Owl .....	1
Council Actions .....	6
Franny Peale Statement .....	3
From The Mayor's Desk .....	7
Green Salvage Event Success .....	4
Meeting Agenda to Become More Resident Friendly .....	1
New Council Member Appointed .....	3
Notes From The Manager's Desk .....	5
On My Mind .....	2
Pool House Celebration .....	1
Pool House Renovation Update .....	3
Permits Granted .....	4
Preliminary Agenda .....	9

The **Town Journal** is the official publication of  
The Town of Somerset, Montgomery County, MD.  
Post Office address: 4510 Cumberland Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
[www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)

Please let us know if you prefer to receive the Journal via email.  
Please provide your email address to the Editor at [maxinea@comcast.net](mailto:maxinea@comcast.net).

### MAYOR

Jeffrey Z. Slavin, 5706 Warwick Place  
301-654-6767

Town Hall Telephone: 301-657-2229  
[mayor@townofsomerset.com](mailto:mayor@townofsomerset.com)

### MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President  
5509 Uppingham Street  
301-913-5973

[mshaul@townofsomerset.com](mailto:mshaul@townofsomerset.com)

Barbara Condos, 4706 Falstone Avenue  
301-656-0461

[bcondos@townofsomerset.com](mailto:bcondos@townofsomerset.com)

Franny Peale, 5521 Uppingham Street  
301-652-9695

[fpeale@townofsomerset.com](mailto:fpeale@townofsomerset.com)

Cathy Pickar, 4915 Dorset Avenue  
301-907-4881

[cpickar@townofsomerset.com](mailto:cpickar@townofsomerset.com)

Barbara Zeughauser, 5412 Trent Street  
301-951-8560

[bzeughauser@townofsomerset.com](mailto:bzeughauser@townofsomerset.com)

### TOWN MANAGER

Richard Charnovich  
301-657-3211

[manager@townofsomerset.com](mailto:manager@townofsomerset.com)

### TOWN ARBORIST

Tolbert Feather  
[town@townofsomerset.com](mailto:town@townofsomerset.com)

### TOWN CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Larry Plummer  
[town@townofsomerset.com](mailto:town@townofsomerset.com)

### TOWN HALL

Open: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday

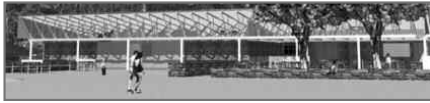
301-657-3211

Fax: 301-657-2773

TTY users call Maryland Relay

Maxine Finkelstein, Editor

Deadline for ads and copy is the 15th of the month at 4:30 p.m.



## Pool House Renovation Update

By Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President

By the time the Journal is published, it is my fervent hope that remaining items at the **pool site** will be finished. During the past two months, the contractor has added an **entrance sign, bench, and recycle bin enclosure**. The office door **hardware** and a **second water fountain** have been installed. The subcontractor responsible for the plantings has **replaced plants** under warranty, and Town staff has put in **additional landscaping** in several locations, including the **rain garden** near the bridge.

Now it's up to all of us to maintain the **site** and **Pool House** assets we are proud of. Last year it was hard to keep the site and Pool House clean because **construction** was ongoing for much of the summer. This year our Town staff will keep an eye on the **exterior** of the site, and all of us can help by making sure litter goes in **trash baskets**. **Pool management** and **guard staff** are responsible for **daily maintenance** of the Pool House and deck. Again, residents can help by cleaning up after themselves and throwing away **unwanted items**. The Town has hired a **cleaning company** to come once a week to **clean and disinfect**. Since this is our first year of operation in a completed facility, the Town will assess how well this approach is working when the season is over.

Last fall we dedicated the facility in a small daytime ceremony for **contractors, architects, and vendors**. This summer we want to **celebrate** the pool's opening during the **summer season** with a big party for residents. Elsewhere in the Journal, there is a description of the celebration on **June 9**.

*Looking forward to seeing many of you there!*

## New Council Member Appointed

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

In order to fill the vacancy resulting from Council Member **Bill Farley's resignation**, the four remaining Council members have appointed **Uppingham Street** resident **Franny Peale** to fill the remainder of his term. As a result, the Town Council will be **all female** for the first time, which we believe to be historic in the **Washington, DC** metropolitan area. We are blessed to have such extraordinary, accomplished women working for Somerset's best interests.

Franny is a **lawyer** by training; her undergraduate college was **Harvard**, and she has been active at **Somerset Elementary School**. She has three children and is married to **Kevin Mills**, who is also an **attorney**. Franny has the skills and experience to be an outstanding Council Member. As we do with all newcomers, there will be **orientation meetings** from **Council, staff** and the **Maryland Municipal League**. Feel free to get in touch with her at [fpeale@townofsomerset.com](mailto:fpeale@townofsomerset.com).

*The following article is a statement Franny submitted to the Council in support of her candidacy.*

---

## New Council Member Statement

By Franny Peale, Uppingham Street

Living in **Somerset** is a privilege, and being a **good neighbor** is a responsibility. I try to contribute on a **small scale** to our **community** by bringing in a **neighbor's newspaper** and **mail** on short notice, by **lending out a rake**, or by **passing along** hand-me-down cleats. I am a good person to **ask for help** with a **program** at the school or an **event** at the pool.

I am **happy** with the way things are going in Town, but I confess to being annoyed when **stuck in traffic** on our crowded streets, or when the **power goes out** in the neighborhood. **Why can't people park in their driveways more often? Should we have neighborhood parking stickers? Can we get more information from Pepco?** I am sure others have debated and discussed these points; maybe even beaten the issues to death, but I have an open mind and a willingness to consider new solutions.

When it comes to building permit applications, I bring two types of knowledge to the reviews and discussions. My background as a **lawyer** taught me how to **interpret** and **explain legal documents** and how to spot holes in reasoning. My experience with **major home** renovations has sharpened my **practical** thinking and given me a **common sense** understanding of the occasional value of **exceptions** to the rules. I have had experience on boards, and am not afraid to speak up to ask for **clarification** or **additional information**.

While I don't have an agenda in mind for the Town, I expect to bring a **fresh mind** and **sharp analysis** to any issue that comes before the Council. This new role will give me a chance to participate as a **good neighbor** in a meaningful and constructive way, and I take my **responsibility** to the Town seriously.

# Somerset Green Salvage Event Success

By Iris Amdur, Warwick Place

**Thank you** to all who participated in this spring's salvage event. The participating charities were **very grateful**, if a bit overwhelmed, by our Town's generosity. In

total, we diverted **76 percent** of our materials from the **landfill** and donated **4100 cubic feet** of useful material to local **charities!**

The Town of Somerset has a history of working with **A Wider Circle** to **collect useful items prior** to bulk trash pickup. In previous seasons, however, much **useful material** has **still ended up** in bulk trash.

This spring's expanded salvage event generated some very impressive results:

- **A Wider Circle: 1600 cubic feet collected** (Two 16' truckloads of furniture and household goods an increase of 25-50 percent from previous collections)
- **Community Forklift: 1300 cubic feet collected** (One 24' truckload of building materials)
- **Donation Nation: 1200 cubic feet collected** (Four pickup truckloads of household goods)
- **Landfill: 1431 cubic feet collected** (9.35 tons of mixed waste)

**While very successful overall**, the event had its share of challenges. It initially

appeared that **A Wider Circle** had not come by on **Saturday**. In fact, they had been in Town all day, removing items from households that had **made prior arrangements** for pickup; they then emptied their truck and returned to **collect curbside items**. As in the past, they collected items in the **best condition**.

This was the **first year** we worked with **Community Forklift** to collect surplus

building materials. The **3:00 p.m. Saturday** pickup time was chosen to allow residents time to bring materials to the curb and to **minimize overlap** with A Wider Circle. Community

Forklift ended up **working until dark** to pick up materials, focusing on the larger donations first. They left some items behind when they ran out of time, but came back **Monday** to pick up more items.

**Donation Nation** was also a **new charity** to work with in Somerset. While

unexpected delays caused Donation Nation to get a late start, they were also faced with an overwhelming volume of useful materials from

which to choose. Working until **dark on Sunday** to load their truck, they even returned early Monday morning to gather additional items.

We are very sorry for **useful items** left behind that ultimately became part of the bulk trash pickup. The good news is that, in total, the amount of useful material entering the waste stream appeared to be **dramatically reduced** compared to last fall's bulk trash, and garages and basements around Town are **much cleaner!**

Participating charities considered the event a **big success** and will work with us again in the future. All said that they would have collected more but ran out of time. **Lessons learned include:** provide as much information as possible to the charities in **advance** by **calling** to notify them of donations; allow all charities to begin pickup on **Saturday morning** and to **return Sunday** to collect missed items.

Please contact **Iris Amdur** at **irisamdur@greenshape.com**, or call **301-654-1713** with other suggestions for this **fall's salvage events**.

## Meeting Agenda from page 1

There will also be a **disclaimer** at the bottom of the **Agenda** that says because the public comment period might **run less** than **twenty minutes**, those interested in certain Agenda items scheduled for a specific time should always come **twenty minutes early**, just in case. In practice, this is what happens anyway, so this should not be a burden on anyone.

Of course, there will still be a **public hearing** element in those Agenda items that require it, so it is not as if the residents will not have later opportunities to participate.

We have made a lot of **improvements** to the Agenda over the past **four years** to make our meetings more efficient and effective, and I hope this newest change will be to everyone's liking.

## Permits Granted



### Fence Permits

**5812 Surrey Street, double-sided solid board cedar fence** with vertical picket lattice top.

**4525 Dorset Avenue, replacement of a 6-ft. chain link fence** that had previously been in the same location.



# Notes From The Manager's Desk

By Rich Charnovich, Town Manager



## Town Hall Top 10 List

Each month I will attempt to do my best to inform our residents on **10 important issues** I currently see happening within the Town of Somerset. As always, if anyone has any questions regarding Town operations, please feel free to contact me at Town Hall at [manager@townofsomerset.com](mailto:manager@townofsomerset.com) or 301-657-3211.

## FY13 Budget



FY13 Budget

The **Town Council** adopted its **FY13 budget** at the **May 7, 2012 Council Meeting**. The FY13 budget can be viewed on the **Town website**. If any Town resident has any comments or questions about the **approved FY13 budget**, please don't hesitate to contact me.

## Pool Guest Fees



Pool Guest Fees

It is highly recommended that **pool guest fees** be **paid in advance** at the Town Hall. **No cash** will be exchanged for guest fees at the pool, **only checks**. **Guest fees** will remain at **\$2 per guest** for this pool season. Please contact the Town Hall with any questions.

## Public Safety Info

**Please report** all **suspicious persons** and **vehicles** immediately to the **Police** at **301-279-8000** or **911**. This would include **solicitors** going door-to-door who appear to be suspicious. Never let a suspicious person **into your home** for any reason. **Reminder: Free** home security surveys by Officer **Denise Gill** at **240-876-1277** by appointment to **assess security risks** of your residence. Here are some **safety recommendations** for those of you who do a lot of walking for either work or leisure:

- **Walk briskly**, with your head up, eyes scanning, and alert to your surroundings.
- **Avoid using** ear buds or headphones, and avoid talking on a cell phone while walking.
- **Walk in groups** whenever possible
- **Trust your instincts**; if someone makes you feel uncomfortable, avoid them by changing your direction and increasing your pace; go directly to a well-lit public place, if possible.
- **Call the police** immediately and report any suspicious person or circumstance.



Construction in Town

## Construction/Parking in Town

Officials at **Town Hall** recognize all of the **difficulties** right now with the significant amount of construction occurring in the Town. The Town will continue to **enforce its Code**, **monitor construction projects** and ensure that construction regulations are **reinforced** with **applicants, contractors**, and **sub-contractors** for all projects. It is important that the Town do its best to

enforce its regulations to **minimize** disruptions to **existing** property owners while welcoming those who are moving into the Town.

## Construction Noise Amendments Passed

The Town has recently adopted **amendments** in relation to its construction activities noise restrictions. A full copy of the **Ordinance** can be obtained by contacting Town Hall. Next month's **Journal** will include a summary of the amendments. Town staff will be working to **educate contractors** and **landscapers** of the updated regulations in coming months.

## Generator Noise and Permitting

Many homes in Town either already have **generators installed** or will be applying to install **emergency generators**. We are very pleased to announce that the majority of households with **Generator Permits** have been working to comply with the Town standards for **noise mitigation**. I think I can speak on behalf of all Town officials in saying that we all greatly **appreciate** your efforts to meet the Town's noise level requirements, and so do your neighbors. Installing an emergency generator does require a **permit**, so please contact the **Town Hall** so we can fill you in on the requirements.

## HVAC Unit Permitting

A fact I don't think many residents realize is that a Town permit is required if you are going to **install** or **replace** any type of **HVAC unit** for your home. Noise level requirements must be met for these units as well for

*continued on page 8*

# Council Meeting Actions

*The Town Council met in special session on April 17, 2012. The Council took the following actions:*

1. Approval as Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission on an application submitted for 4727 Essex Avenue.

*The Town Council met in regular session on May 7, 2012. The Council took the following actions:*

1. Approval of the April 17, 2012 Special Council Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of the April 2, 2012 Regular Council Minutes
3. Approval of the FY13 Budget and setting the real estate tax rate. No real estate tax increase in the FY13 budget.
4. Appointment of Franny Peale to the vacant seat on the Town Council formerly held by Bill Farley.
5. Approval of a building and dumpster permit application for 5706 Surrey Street for the purpose of re-constructing the chimney.
6. Approval of a demolition, dumpster building tree removal, tree reforestation, and curb cut permits for 5529 Uppingham Street.
7. Approval of demolition, dumpster, building, tree removal, tree reforestation, and curb cut permits for 5510 Trent Street.
8. Approval of amendments in relation to the Town's Ordinance regarding noise control.
9. Approval of the removal of two Town trees located at 5809 Surrey Street and 5812 Warwick Place (located on Cumberland Avenue)
10. Approval on an emergency basis to remove three Town trees located at 5509 Greystone Street, 5703 Warwick Place and 4807 Falstone Avenue.
11. Approval of the removal of three Leyland Cypress, one Hemlock and one Pine located at 4725 Cumberland Avenue.
12. Approval of East Coast Sweeping for street sweeping services, One in FY12 and one in FY13. Approval of AquaFree Facilities Services, Inc. for weekly cleaning services at the Town Pool House.
13. Approval of a special event request from Town resident Alan Proctor to host a musical group at the Town Pool House on May 26, 2012 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The event cannot take place past 6:00 p.m.
14. Approval of Swim Team events on the following dates: May 17, June 9, June 20, June 30, July 7, July 8, July 13, July 18, July 21. Details of the events can be obtained by contacting the Town Hall.
15. Appointment of Mark Oxley, Dorset, to the Town Batting Cage Committee. His term will expire December 31, 2013.
16. Appointment of Ann Mitchell, Dorset, to the Town Parks and Natural Resources Committee. Her term will end April 4, 2015.
18. Appointment of Kathleen Kenyon, Grantham, to the Town Parks and Natural Resources Committee. Her term will expire April 4, 2015.
19. Approval of the following Council liaison assignments for 2012: Pool Committee, Barbara Condos. Alternate Franny Peale. Swim Team Committee, Franny Peale. Alternate, Barbara Condos. Tennis Committee, Cathy Pickar. Alternate, Barbara Condos.

In addition to the items approved at the Regular Meeting, the Council also heard the Financial Report from the Town Manager, Richard Charnovich. George Wyeth, Chair, Environmental Committee, discussed the storm water management plan the Environmental Committee is working on developing. Lou Balodemas provided the Council with a Pool House punch list update via email that was discussed during the meeting. It was determined that some amendments would be worked on to the Pool Rules. Mayor Slavin had his monthly report available at the meeting for anyone who wanted to review it.



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

It is with **regret** that the Council and I **accepted** Council Member **Bill Farley's resignation**, but we were pleased that his career is on the move. Bill is in the process of becoming an **Administrative Law Judge**, and between the **ethics issues** and **time involved**, felt it was better that he devote his entire schedule to his **new job** and **active family**. We have so much **appreciated** our years working with Bill, and he has made some **significant contributions** for all of us. His **wonderful personality** and **sharp legal mind** were real benefits to our meetings, and his impressive work with the **Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee**, where he rose to the position of **chair**, and major efforts as a member of the **MCPS site selection committee** for the **new middle school** in our cluster will have lasting effects for generations. We will **honor** Bill with a special meal in the near future to be hosted by our **Council** and **Staff**. We know Bill will keep in good touch with us and remain as a **major voice** on **Somerset issues**.

In the meantime, **per the Charter**, the Council decided to fill the vacancy by **appointment** rather than hold a special election. I am pleased with the **excellent**, quick selection of **Franny Peale** (Uppingham), because there are a lot of items to be considered in the upcoming months and a full complement of **Council Members** is needed.

We are getting a great number of **compliments** on the **new sign** and **bench** at the pool site, and I **congratulate** the Council for their great teamwork in making the design decisions. This can often be the hardest of tasks, but they truly shone in this case.

I am excited to report that this year's **regional winner** of the **Maryland Municipal League's "If I Were Mayor, I Would . . ."**



left to right: Mayor Slavin, Alison Mills, Lt. Governor Anthony Brown

**essay contest** for all of the **State's fourth graders** was a Town resident, **Alison Mills** (Uppingham), a student at **Somerset Elementary School** and daughter of our new Council member **Franny Peale** and **Kevin Mills**. We had double good news this time. The winner in the **Town contest**, selected by a panel of three citizens, was **Mikey Panner** (Essex), daughter of new residents **Morris Panner** and **Nancy Jardini**. Alison travelled to **Annapolis** with **10 others** to receive her award from **Lt. Governor Anthony Brown** at the **Statehouse**, followed by a boat ride in the harbor. I was pleased to be in attendance. For Mikey, we will celebrate at the **Somerset Fourth of July celebration**, where we will ask her to **read her essay** to the assembled group. Both girls will be getting **savings bonds** and a **police ride-alongs**. Thanks to all students for their **participation** and I hope they will encourage all their **third grade** friends to get their writing pads ready for next year.

Many thanks to **Iris Amdur** (Warwick) for her leadership role in the expansion of our efforts to direct **unneeded furniture** and **households goods** to area **nonprofits** in advance of our **bi-annual bulk trash pickup day** recently. While in the past we have been **promoting donations** to **A Wider Circle** in advance of our pickups, this time we added **Operation Forklift** and **Donation Nation** to the list. The **good news** is that the amount of items put out was **very generous**, but the groups were not necessarily prepared for **so much!** In the fall we will have **more lead time** and **more widely publicize** the schedule, but I am so happy at the **accomplishments** this past weekend. It is all part of my efforts to **re-brand** the Town as a real **"caring" community** and not just a place for people of means and impressive educations. As always, **P. Kaye Haniffee** (Falstone), who works with **A Wider Circle**, provided sage advice and detailed information. The **Town staff** did a great job in helping to coordinate.

While Somerset does not regulate **yard sales** and **estate sales**, from time to time such events can place a **major burden** on a **neighborhood**, as was the case on a recent weekend. The **major problem** is **parking**, but such activities also lead to **trespassing**, **litter**, and **noise**. At this time, I am asking everyone to be **considerate** when you are having any kind of large **event** or **gathering** at your homes, and to be sure to **advise** guests/customers to be mindful of our **signs** and **laws**. I am **not recommending** that the Council enact any new regulations yet, but I will put together a small task force to explore the issue and help write some **friendly-neighbor suggestions** to circulate. Anyone wishing to help can get in touch with me

The Staff and I encouraged everyone to participate in **Bike to Work Day** on **Friday, May 18**. Every year this is our region's **largest bicycling event**, and it is sponsored by the **Washington Area Bicyclists Association**. Thousands of area residents pedaled to work that day to **celebrate bicycling** as a **clean, healthy, and fun mode of transportation**. Please report back to me if you were able to join this effort, because it is also part of my efforts to brand Somerset as a **"green" town**, too.

continued on page 8

In late **April**, I had the unique privilege and honor to travel to **Plains, Georgia** as the guest of **Habitat for Humanity** for their annual **Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Weekend**. It was truly the experience of a lifetime, and it was wonderful to meet the Carters and learn of their *dedication* to this important *affordable housing international organization*. As many of you know, there is a chapter in **Montgomery County** in which I have been active, and plan to get even more involved in the future. The Carters are returning to **Haiti** this fall to help build some desperately needed homes there and I hope one day to join them. In the interim, I will be sending a *thank you note* and including two *Town of Somerset caps* for the former **First Couple**, and hope that we will see them wearing them in a photo sometime.

*I wish everyone a safe and meaningful Memorial Day weekend.*

---

---

Notes From Manager's Desk from page 5

---

the protection of your neighbors. Please contact the **Town Hall** or visit the *Town website* for specific *requirements* for the *installation* of HVAC units. The Town Council has recently adopted an **Ordinance** that now permits the *emergency installation* of HVAC Units. Please contact the Town Hall for further details.

## Private and Town Tree Removal Process

This is just a reminder that the **Town of Somerset** must *approve any trees to be removed* within the Town, whether they are *public* or *privately* owned. Please make sure that you contact the Town Hall to obtain a **permit** in advance of removing any trees from your property. **Violators** of this Ordinance are subject to *fines* in accordance with the **Town Code**.

## Gator Bags on Newly Planted Town Trees

You may have noticed there are times Town staff have attached **gator bags** to *fairly new* Town planted trees. Gator bags are *green plastic bags* that hold water. The staff goes around Town and fills them—but if you notice the bag is *empty* and you are outside watering, *please help* us by filling them. *Thank you for your consideration.*



2012 Tennis Cards

## Tennis Cards Available

**Tennis cards** are now available at the **Town Hall**. The fee for a card is **\$20 per household** for calendar year **2012**. If you use the Town courts, you are *required* to purchase and *post* a card while you are playing on the courts. Please contact or drop by the Town Hall to obtain your card.

## E-Journal Sign-Up

We would like to urge as many residents as possible to receive their **Town Journal** electronically. As a **Tree City USA** and a **PLANT Maryland Community**, Somerset wants to reduce its impact on the **environment** by encouraging residents to receive their copy of the Town Journal by *email*. If you are not currently on the Town Journal *email distribution list* and would like to receive an electronic copy, please contact Town Hall at *manager@townofsomerset.com* or at **301-657-3211**.



# Preliminary Agenda

## Regular Town Council Meeting

**Somerset Town Hall – Monday, June 4, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.**

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Somerset Town Hall. Agenda updates are posted on the Town website: [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)

### **Regular Meeting of the Town Council**

**Council Work Session – 7:00 p.m.**

**Council Meeting Convenes – 7:30 p.m.**

1. Council Work Session – 7:00 p.m.
2. Council Meeting Convenes – 7:30 p.m.
3. Comments: Public Comment Period – 7:30 p.m.\*
4. Motion: To approve the May 7, 2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – 7:50 p.m.
5. Discussion: Town Manager's June Financial Report – 7:55 p.m.
6. Public Hearing/Motion: To consider approval of an emergency HVAC Unit installation on an application submitted by Mark and Julie Oxley, 4515 Dorset Avenue – 8:00 p.m.
7. Public Hearing/Motion: To consider approval of an emergency HVAC Unit installation on an application submitted by Elaine Bloomfield, 5504 Surrey Street – 8:05 p.m.
8. Discussion/Motion: To consider approval of a contract with Camp Summerset for the 2012 sessions – 8:10 p.m.
9. Discussion/Motion: To consider approval of a contract with NB Health and Fitness, L.L.C. DBA Wet Yet? Water Fitness, for water aerobics classes at the Town Pool for 2012 – 8:15 p.m.
10. Public Hearing/Motion: To consider amendments to the Town Tennis Court Rules as recommended by the Ad Hoc Tennis Committee – 8:20 p.m.
11. Discussion/Motion: To consider approval of the Council liaison assignments for 2012 – 2013 – 8:30 p.m.
12. Discussion/Motion: To consider approval of an alternative Council meeting date to accommodate the Fiscal Year 2013 holiday schedule – 8:40 p.m.  
September 3, 2012 – Labor Day. New Meeting Date: September 4, 2012
14. Discussion: Mayor's Report – 8:45 p.m.
15. Adjourn – 8:50 p.m.

### **Key**

**Public Hearing Item:** Agenda item where public comment is permitted.

**Discussion Item:** Agenda item limited to discussion among the Council, Mayor and Town Staff.

**Motion Item:** Agenda item requesting action, limited to Council discussion.

**Comments:** Opinions and Questions from Town residents.

*This is a preliminary Agenda prepared to meet the Journal press deadline, which typically is two weeks prior to the next Town Council meeting. During this period, there will likely be changes to the timing of items, and some items may be added or deleted. Please consult the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch or the Town website for the most up-to-date Agenda.*

**Please note the Public Comment Period at 7:30 p.m. may run less than 20 minutes. Residents who wish to be present for a particular Agenda item are advised to arrive 20 minutes ahead of the item's scheduled discussion time since discussions sometimes run ahead of schedule.**

**Items marked \*** have related articles inside this issue of the Town Journal.